



## American Consulate General, Chennai

March 14, 2016

### **Vacancy Announcement Number: CHE-PSAP-2016-06**

**OPEN TO:** All Interested Candidates

**POSITION TITLE:** Information Specialist (#:730001)

**OPENING DATE:** March 14, 2016

**CLOSING DATE:** March 30, 2016

**WORK HOURS:** Full-time; 40 hours/week

**SALARY:** Ordinarily Resident (OR) - Grade: FSN-10  
Not Ordinarily Resident (NOR) - Grade: FP-05  
(steps 5 thru 14)\*  
\*Final grade/step for NORs will be determined by Washington.

ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT (OR) APPLICANTS (see **Appendix A for definition**) MUST HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND/OR RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.

American Consulate General, Chennai, is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for the position of Information Specialist in Public Affairs section.

**Applicants must apply on U.S. Mission's Universal Application for Employment (UAE) (form DS-174) and specify the vacancy announcement number. Applications not completed on UAE form, or without reference to a specific vacancy announcement number will not be considered. Only completed forms will be considered. (See "HOW TO APPLY" below)**

**Only applicants who are selected for skills test/interview will be contacted.**

## **BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION:**

- The Information Specialist serves as the chief information and media advisor on Consulate media initiatives, South India media reaction, and media placement to the Public Affairs Officer, the Information Officer, and the Cultural Affairs Officer.
- The position analyzes South India media reporting on political, social, and economic issues as it impacts U.S. interests and advises Consulate officers on interactions with the South Indian media.
- The Information Specialist serves as the English language media editor, maintaining strong contacts within the English language South Indian media.
- The position reports to the Information Officer and supervises three Information Assistants, each of whom covers Tamil, Kannada, or Malayalam media, respectively.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

## **QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:**

**Applicants must address each required qualification listed below with specific and comprehensive information supporting each item. Failure to do so may result in a determination that the applicant is not qualified.**

- Completion of Bachelor's degree in mass communications/ journalism/ marketing/ public relations is required.
- Seven years of progressive work experience with minimum 6 month of experience with supervisory responsibilities in a media-related professional environment [public relations, advertising, journalism, digital engagement, etc.].
- Required language proficiency:
  - English: Level IV (fluency) in Speaking, level IV in Reading, level IV in Writing.
  - Tamil/Kannada/Malayalam: Level IV (fluency) in Speaking, level IV in Reading.

(When applying for the position, please indicate **your level** of proficiency in the languages).

- Concise, persuasive, and fluent writing in English; ability to edit others' writing is essential.

- Understanding of impact, issues, and South India environment of print and broadcast media. High level professional expertise in media relations, media operations, and media requirements with excellent contacts in the media is required.
- Good standing in their professional community. Sound judgement to advise and guide the PAO/IO/CAO on all aspects of media operations is required.
- Thorough computer knowledge is essential.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** The complete position description listing all duties and responsibilities may be obtained by contacting our Human Resources Office (POC: Vijaya Mahesh, phone: 044-28574115 or 044-28574000).

**SELECTION PROCESS:** When qualified, applicants who are U.S. Citizen Eligible Family Members (USEFMs) and/or preference-eligible U.S. Veterans are given a preference in hiring. Therefore, it is essential that these applicants make themselves known as having a hiring preference and specifically address the required qualifications above in their application.

**HIRING PREFERENCE ORDER:**

- (1) USEFM who is ALSO a preference-eligible U.S Veteran
- (2) USEFM OR a preference-eligible U.S Veteran
- (3) FS on LWOP

**ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA:**

1. Management may consider the following when determining successful candidacy: nepotism, conflicts of interest, budget and residency status.
2. Current OR employees serving a probationary period are not eligible to apply. Current OR employees with an Overall Summary Rating of Needs Improvement or Unsatisfactory on their most recent Employee Performance Report (EPR) are not eligible to apply.
3. Current NOR employees hired on a Family Member Appointment (FMA) or a Personal Service Agreement (PSA) are not eligible to apply within the first 90 calendar days of their employment, unless they have a When Actually Employed (WAE) work schedule.
4. The candidate must be able to obtain and hold a security clearance required for the position.

**HOW TO APPLY:**

Applicants must submit the following documents to be considered:

- Universal Application for Employment (UAE) (Form DS-174), which is available on our website: [http://chennai.usconsulate.gov/job\\_opportunities.html](http://chennai.usconsulate.gov/job_opportunities.html) or by contacting our Human Resources Office (See "For Further Information" above); **and**
- Any additional documentation that supports or addresses the requirements listed above (e.g. degrees, transcripts, etc.)

**IMPORTANT:** Applicants claiming a U.S. Veteran's preference must submit written documentation confirming eligibility (e.g. Member Copy 4 of Form DD-214, Letter from the Veteran's Administration, or certification documenting eligibility under the VOW Act with an expected discharge no later than 120 days after the certification is submitted) by the closing date of the vacancy announcement. If the written documentation confirming eligibility is not received in the HR office by the closing date of the vacancy announcement, the U.S. Veteran's preference will not be considered in the application process. Specific criteria for receiving a U.S. Veteran's preference may be found in HR/OE's Family Member Employment Policy (FMEP).

#### **WHERE TO APPLY:**

Mailing Address: American Consulate General  
Attention: Management Officer  
220 Anna Salai  
Chennai 600 006  
FAX number: 28574455 / 28112020

E-mail: [chennai-vacancies@state.gov](mailto:chennai-vacancies@state.gov)  
(Please insert "**CHE-PSAP-2016-06**" (Vacancy Announcement Number) in the subject line of the e-mail. Applications without the announcement number or with incorrect announcement number will not be considered).

**EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:** The U.S. Mission in Chennai provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation. The Department of State also strives to achieve equal employment opportunity in all personnel operations through continuing diversity enhancement programs. The EEO complaint procedure is not available to individuals who believe they have been denied equal opportunity based upon marital status or political affiliation. Individuals with such complaints should avail themselves of the appropriate grievance procedures, remedies for prohibited personnel practices, and/or courts for relief.

## APPENDIX A - DEFINITIONS

**Eligible Family Member (EFM):** An EFM for employment purposes is defined as an individual who meets **all** of the following criteria:

- U.S. Citizen or not a U.S. Citizen; **and**
- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in 3 FAM 1610); **or**
- Child, who is unmarried and under 21 years of age or, regardless of age, is incapable of self-support. The term "child" shall include, in addition to natural offspring, stepchild, adopted child, and a child under legal guardianship of employee, spouse, or same-sex domestic partner when such child is expected to be under legal guardianship until 21 years of age and when dependent upon and normally residing with the guardian; **or**
- Parent (including stepparents and legally adoptive parents) of employee, spouse, or same-sex domestic partner, when such parent is at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support; **or**
- Sister or brother (including stepsisters and stepbrothers, or adoptive sisters or brothers) of the employee, spouse, or same-sex domestic partner when such sibling is at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support, unmarried, and under 21 years of age, or regardless of age, incapable of self-support; **and**
- Listed on the travel orders or approved Form OF-126 of a sponsoring employee, i.e., a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member who is permanently assigned to or stationed abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; **and**
- Is under chief of mission authority.

**U.S. Citizen Eligible Family Member (USEFM):** A USEFM is an individual who meets **all** of the following criteria:

- U.S. Citizen; **and**
- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in 3 FAM 1610) of the sponsoring employee; **or**
- Child of the sponsoring employee who is unmarried and at least 18 years old; **and**
- Listed on the travel orders or approved Form OF-126 of a sponsoring employee, i.e., a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member who is permanently assigned to or stationed abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; and resides at the sponsoring employee's post of assignment abroad, or as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; and is under chief of mission authority; **or**
- resides at an Involuntary Separate Maintenance Allowance (ISMA) location authorized under 3 FAM 3232.2; **or**
- Currently receives a U.S. Government retirement annuity or pension from a career in the U.S. Foreign Service or Civil Service.

**Appointment Eligible Family Member (AEFM):** An AEFM is an individual who meets **all** of the following criteria:

- U.S. Citizen; **and**
- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in 3 FAM 1610) of the sponsoring employee; **or**
- Child of the sponsoring employee who is unmarried and at least 18 years old; **and**
- Listed on the travel orders or approved Form OF-126 of a sponsoring employee, i.e., a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member who is permanently assigned to or stationed abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT); **and**
- Is under chief of mission authority; **and**
- Is residing at the sponsoring employee's post of assignment abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; **and**
- Does NOT currently receive a U.S. Government retirement annuity or pension from a career in the U.S. Foreign Service or Civil Service.

**Member of Household (MOH):** A MOH is an individual who meets **all** of the following criteria.

- A MOH is someone who accompanies or joins a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member permanently assigned to or stationed abroad or, as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; and
- A MOH must be officially declared to the COM by the sponsoring employee as part of his/her household; and
- A MOH is under COM authority;
- A MOH may include a parent, unmarried partner, other relative, or adult child;
- A MOH may or may not be a U.S. Citizen;
- A MOH is **not** an EFM;
- A MOH is **not** listed on the travel orders or approved Form F-126 of a sponsoring employee.

**Not Ordinarily Resident (NOR)** – An individual who meets the following criteria:

- An EFM, USEFM or AEFM of a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member permanently assigned or stationed abroad, or as appropriate, at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; or
- Has diplomatic privileges and immunities; and
- Is eligible for compensation under the FS or GS salary schedule; and
- Has a U.S. Social Security Number (SSN); and
- Is not a citizen of the host country; and

- Does not ordinarily reside in the host country; and
- Is not subject to host country employment and tax laws.

**Ordinarily Resident (OR)** – An individual who meets the following criteria:

- A citizen of the host country; or
- A non-citizen of the host country (including a U.S. citizen or a third-country national) who is locally resident and has legal and/or permanent resident status within the host country and/or who is a holder of a non-diplomatic visa/work and/or residency permit; and/or
- Is subject to host country employment and tax laws.

**CLOSING DATE FOR THIS POSITION: March 30, 2016**

Approved: M: George Schaal  
Cleared: PAS: Emily Fertik  
Drafted: M/HR: Vijaya Mahesh